6.1.6 Estimated Vehicle Costs

Based on the range of candidate vehicles, the associated range of vehicle capital costs are summarized in Table 6-4 below.

Table 6-4: Vehicle Capital Costs

Vehicle Type	Required # of Vehicles*	Cost Per Vehicle**	Total Vehicle Cost
35' Standard Natural Gas	90	$260,000	$23,400,000
40' Standard Natural Gas	90	$280,000	$25,200,000
Double Deck	90	$270,000	$24,300,000
Electric/Electric Hybrid	90	$285,000	$25,650,000

* The assumption for the required number of vehicles is based on the project operating plan. Different vehicles will have different capacities and therefore some modifications of the operating plan to reduce the number of vehicles may be possible. These potential savings are not incorporated into the capital cost calculations included in this table or in the operating cost elsewhere in this plan.

** Costs per vehicle were estimated utilizing the Federal Transit Administration's "Statistics on Appropriations for Vehicle Purchases for FY 2001.

6.2 Stops and Stop Amenities

Bus stops and stop amenities will be installed and maintained via a contract with a bus shelter advertiser. Under this arrangement, the advertiser recoups the cost of installation and the maintenance program through the sale of advertising on the shelters. This arrangement is quite common and in place in a number of jurisdictions. The contract with the advertiser in Washington D.C. will be written such that the advertiser will be responsible for installing unique shelters and stop amenities at circulator-only stops as part of its larger city-wide contract. Further, the contract will stipulate that certain Circulator stops will have no advertising (the costs of installing the circulator shelters will be recouped by increasing advertising on other shelters in the city). Because the responsibility for stop amenity installation will rest with the advertising firm, the project will bear no capital cost for this project element.

6.3 Storage and Maintenance Facility

The large vehicle fleet (90 vehicles) necessary for the circulator service may very well require an entirely new maintenance and storage facility. Capital costs and acreage requirements were estimated for the new fleet based on work completed as part of the Washington Metropolitan Regional Bus Study. Based on this work the estimated facility acreage requirement will be ***5.9 acres***. [40] The estimated capital cost of the storage and maintenance facility is ***$56,398,593*** (see Table 6-5 below for greater detail), including the cost of land purchase. This estimate is based on the estimated cost of a 100-vehicle urban facility from the Regional Bus Study. Land costs are

[40] The garage plan portion of the Regional Bus Study calculated acreage requirements for both urban and suburban facility types, for a range of the number of buses to be handled at the facility (acreage requirements were developed for a 50, 100, 150, 200, and 250 bus facility). The acreage estimate identified for the circulator facility is based on the acreage required for an urban facility supporting 100 vehicles.